

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LAHORE 00813 120635Z

21

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 /066 W

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P R 120530Z JUL 75

FM AMCONSUL LAHORE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0501

INFO AMCONSUL KARACHI

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY

UNCLAS LAHORE 0813

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS : PINT, PK

SUBJECT : CHIEF MINISTER RAMAY RESIGNS; SUCCESSOR TO BE
CHOSEN JULY 13

REFERENCE : LAHORE 0812

1. PRESS JULY 12 REPORTS THAT PUNJAB CHIEF MINISTER MOHAMMAD HANEEF RAMAY FORMALLY SUBMITTED RESIGNATION EVENING JULY 11 TO GOVERNOR GHULAM MUSTAFA KHAR. (UNDER CONSTITUTION, SUCH RESIGNATION AUTOMATICALLY ACCEPTED BY GOVERNOR.)

2. PPP PARLIAMENTARY GROUP IN PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY REPORTEDLY EXPECTED TO ELECT NEW LEADER AT SPECIAL MEETING JULY 13, WHO WOULD IN TURN BE ELECTED CHIEF MINISTER WHEN ASSEMBLY CONVENES NEXT DAY. CONSISTENT WITH RECENT SPECULATION, PAK TIMES REPORTS "IT HAS NOW BEEN CONFIRMED" THAT PARLIAMENTARY PARTY WILL SELECT FORMER GOVERNOR SADIQ HUSSAIN QURESHI AS NEW LEADER.

3. REPORTS INDICATE THAT NEW PROVINCIAL CABINET LIKELY TO BE CHOSEN AND SWORN IN JULY 15 OR 16 AND THAT "HECTIC POLITICAL ACTIVITY", CENTERING AROUND CHIEF MINISTER APPARENT QURESHI, HAS BEGUN IN LAHORE FEATURING REPRESENTATIONS BY ASPIRANTS TO CABINET.

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4. RAMAY, THIRD CHIEF MINISTER OF PUNJAB UNDER PPP REGIME,

HAD HELF OFFICE 17 MONTHS. IN EVIDENT COMMENT ON CONSTITUTIONAL
ISSUE AROUND WHICH RECENT DISPUTE BETWEEN GOVERNOR AND CHIEF
MINISTER REVOLVED, PAK TIMES NOTES IN NEWS STORY "RAMAY, WHO
EXERCISED ALL POWERS UNDER CONSTITUTION, REMAINED
ASSOCIATED WITH THE PUNJAB GOVERNMENT SINCE THE PPP TOOK
OVER IN DECEMBER 1971, FIRST AS GOVERNOR'S ADVISER AND LATER AS
FINANCE MINISTER AND CHIEF MINISTER." NOTING THAT RAMAY
HAS RECEIVED PPP TICKET FOR ELECTION TO SENATE JULY 24,
PAPER REPORTS HE IS LIKELY TO BE APPOINTED TO CENTRAL CABINET,
AS EITHER FINANCE OR INFORMATION MINISTER.
SPENGLER

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Message Attributes

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